

Textbooks turn digital

Megan Koler

News Editor

A recent grant from Sony revitalized Clackamas' audio textbook program.

The Disability Resource Center received a \$3000 grant this year from Sony to purchase 15 MP3 players. It was the final step in digitalizing the audio textbook system that caters to students who suffer from dyslexia and visual or motor impairments.

"I wrote a grant for Sony because I thought, 'Well, we want to be able to record [textbooks] digitally, but I want students to have the ability to listen to it anywhere, not just on the computer,'" said Casey Sims, the disabled students and tutor coordinator.

Normally, MP3 players help the listener organize separate music files by artist, album and song. The new audio textbooks are arranged by author, textbook and chapter, eliminating the tedious work of navigating a cassette.

The textbooks will be recorded and posted on blackboard.com, where students may download them on their computer, personal MP3 player, or one of the new Sony MP3 players available for rental.

"We'll check them out to students, and they can use them for the whole term, and then we'll

get them back at the end of the term," said Sims.

Before the move to digital audio textbooks, everything was done by cassette.

"It went okay, but it was an old, outdated technology," said Sims. "Not every student had tape players anymore, and we had to lend them out."

Sims pointed out several other problems with the cassette system, including the poor sound quality, the fragility of the tapes and an increasingly cramped and inefficient storage system.

"We had thousands of these tapes," said Sims.

It was a former reader and PSU graduate student, Mary-Jean Williams, who approached the Disability Resource Center about moving over to a digital format as a project for her Communications Degree.

"[Williams] worked closely with Michael Rybel, who runs the digital audio textbook program here," said Sims.

"One of the reasons that it's going really well this year is because Michael is doing a great job," said Sims. "He is the one that is matching up the student with the reader and making sure that they know how to do it, and just managing the entire process."

For more information, contact Sims at 503-657-6958 ext. 2324 or by e-mail at caseys@clackamas.edu.



Internet Photo

Sony Walkman Core MP3 Player

- * 5012 MB of storage
- * 50 hours of playback on one battery charge
- * A three-minute charge gives it three hours of battery life
- * Connects to USB ports for high-speed data transfer

campus SAFETY



All reports are taken from CCC's campus safety incident logs. Summaries are edited for clarity, not content.

10.17.06
1:15 p.m.

Base reported that two white male juveniles were climbing and swinging on the wisteria outside the Community Center. Officer made contact.

5:30 p.m.

Cadet reported group of juveniles on bikes cutting through quad. He saw one pointing to planter dirt mounds, possibly to jump, until he saw the cadet. Cadet told them to leave campus. He followed them until they left the campus at Hwy 213 and Molalla Ave.

6:20 p.m.

Group of students smoking in front of the Dye Learning Center. Officer went to check their ID as they were heading back into the building. Officer also did a walk-through of the building and contacted the GED program staff.

6:28 p.m.

Property traffic accident, light post knocked down. No injuries.

8:35 p.m.

Custodian reported transient panhandling a student near Barlow. Officer located him coming out of the Barlow building and advised him not to bother students and to leave the campus. He left without further incident.

MANUFACTURING: anybody welcome to attend

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place at the 2007 Metals Expo at the Oregon Convention Center on May 10.

"Anybody is welcome, and we challenge people to bring somebody who doesn't know what manufacturing is all about," said Giltz. "We want to help get folks better attuned to what's going on in that sector so that - in the classrooms - they can speak more authoritatively about career possibilities."

Representative Darlene

Hooley also spoke briefly at the conference, lending her support and explaining what she hopes this campaign will accomplish on a national level.

"Government can help or hinder manufacturing with every new law," said David Marks, chairman of the Manufacturing 21 Coalition and president/CEO of Marks Metal Technology. "It is therefore very important that our representatives understand the needs of manufacturing, and specifically in work force, and the shortage we have."

"[Hooley has] long been a friend and partner to the college and to manufacturing," said Giltz. "She's always been a part of this, as it relates to economic development, as well as education."

Anyone who wants to tour some of the manufacturing facilities around Clackamas County is welcome to participate in any of the scheduled field trips, and encouraged to contact Giltz at (503) 657-6958 ext. 2921, or call Cindy Hagen at (503) 353-4328. Students may also reach Giltz at

scottg@clackamas.edu.

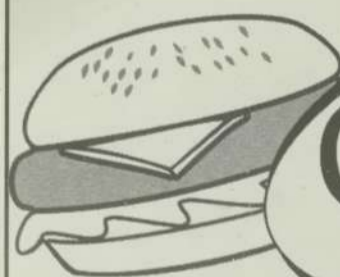
"A lot of people ... 'Manufacturing' and think it's probably something to do with 'heavy industry' and they don't know if that's a good thing or not. That kind of shut down because of the image, and that brings a negative connotation to the field which is actually high-tech," said Giltz about the necessity of the awareness campaign. "We want to make sure people know that."

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Fridays: 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



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CAMPUS NEWS & EVENTS

A Thriving in the Workplace session entitled "Behind the Scenes: Career Portfolios" will be held Thurs., Oct. 26 in Barlow Hall. The cost is \$10, and drop-ins are welcome. Contact is 503-657-6958 ext. 5242.

Cold Frame Construction: Students can explore a variety of design and construction techniques for building a garden-season-extending cold frame on Sat., Oct. 28 at Clairmont. Cost is \$10. Contact is 503-657-6958 ext. 2246.

A Smart Marketing Seminar will be held Fri., Nov. 10 at the Harmony campus. Guest speaker Bob Sherb, a former marketing executive, will provide marketing advice for small business owners. Cost is \$150. Contact is 503-656-4447.

Estonian Choir Concert: The Unistus Chamber Choir, comprised of CCC alumni and friends, will perform an Estonian Requiem at the Milwaukie Lutheran Church Sun., Nov. 12. Cost \$10 and \$5 for students and seniors.